

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An Internet microwave oven comprising:
an access unit connected to a communication line, for accessing the Internet;
a search engine for searching cooking information and other various information
when the Internet is accessed through the access unit;
a microcomputer for downloading the cooking information and other various
information searched by the search engine at a user's request [[or]] and for automatically
outputting a control signal to [cook food] perform a cooking operation depending on the
cooking information selected by the user from the downloaded information;
a signal converting unit for converting the cooking information and other various
information selected by the user and searched by the search engine to a signal capable of being
recognized by the microcomputer to perform data communication with the microcomputer; and
a display unit for displaying the cooking information and other various
information converted by the signal converting unit in accordance with the control signal of the
microcomputer.
2. (Original) The Internet microwave oven of claim 1, wherein the access unit is a
modem.

3. (Original) The Internet microwave oven of claim 1, wherein the search engine is an Internet browser.

4. (Original) The Internet microwave oven of claim 1, wherein the display unit is a liquid crystal display (LCD).

5. (Currently Amended) The Internet microwave oven of claim 1, wherein the microcomputer recognizes a data transmission zone of the signal converting unit if a high signal generated by the signal converting unit is applied to the microcomputer, while the microcomputer recognizes a data transmission zone of the microcomputer if a low signal is applied to the microcomputer.

6. (Original) The Internet microwave oven of claim 1, wherein the search engine and the signal converting unit perform data communication in accordance with RS-232C communication standards.

7. (New) The Internet microwave oven of claim 1, wherein the converted cooking information selected by the user controls the microcomputer to cook the food.

8. (New) A microwave oven, comprising:
a microcomputer; and
a converter which converts cooking information obtained from an Internet site into a form recognizable by the microcomputer, wherein the microcomputer controls downloading of the cooking information in response to a first user signal and generates a control signal to cook food based on the converted cooking information in response to a second user signal.
9. (New) The oven of claim 8, wherein the converted cooking information configures at least one cooking parameter of the oven, and wherein the food is cooked in accordance with said at least one parameter in response to the second user signal.
10. (New) The oven of claim 8, further comprising:
a display for displaying the cooking information.
11. (New) The oven of claim 10, wherein the first user signal selects the cooking information on the display.
12. (New) The oven of claim 8, wherein the second user signal is generated from activation of a cooking start button.

13. (New) The oven of claim 8, further comprising:
a search engine for obtaining the cooking information from the Internet site,
wherein the signal converter is coupled between the microcomputer and
converter.
14. (New) The oven of claim 8, wherein the microcomputer receives the converted
cooking information from the converter based on a data transmission available signal.
15. (New) The oven of claim 14, wherein the data transmission available signal
indicates that the converter is in a state for sending data to the microcomputer.
16. (New) The oven of claim 15, wherein the data transmission available signal
assumes a first level when the converter is in a state for sending data to the microcomputer and
assumes a second level when the microcomputer is in a state for receiving data from the
converter.
17. (New) The oven of claim 16, wherein a global interrupt signal is input into the
microcomputer when the data transmission available signal assumes said first level.

18. (New) The oven of claim 17, wherein a data read control signal is input into the microcomputer when the data transmission available signal assumes said first level.

19. (New) The oven of claim 18, wherein the data read control signal is a 1-byte interrupt signal.

20. (New) The oven of claim 18, wherein the microcomputer receives the converted cooking information in synchronism with a data receive property signal, and wherein the microcomputer recognizes that it is in a ready state to receive data when the data receive property signal assumes a first value and recognizes that it is in a state where data reading has been completed with the data receive property signal assumes a second value.

21. (New) The oven of claim 20, wherein the data transmission available signal, the global interrupt signal, the data read control signal, and the data receive property signal are received through different ports of the microcomputer.

22. (New) A method for operating a microwave oven, comprising:
converting cooking information obtained from the Internet into a signal recognizable by a microcomputer; and

cooking food in the oven based on the converted information in the response to a user signal.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, further comprising:
displaying the cooking information; and
downloading the cooking information when selected by the user.
24. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the user signal is generated when a cook start button is pressed by the user.
25. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein a microcomputer controls the oven to cook the food based on a set of control signals.
26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein a first control signal allows the microcomputer to sense an operational state of a signal converting unit.
27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the microcomputer recognizes a data transmission zone of the signal converting unit when the first control signal assumes a first level and recognizes a data transmission zone of the microcomputer the first control signal assumes a second level.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein a second control signal is a global interrupt signal which is input into the microcomputer when the first control signal assumes said first level.

29. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein a third control signal is data read control signal which is input into the microcomputer when the first control signal assumes said first level.

30. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the data read control signal is a 1-byte interrupt signal.

31. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the microcomputer recognizes that it is in a ready state to receive data when a fourth control signal assumes a first value and recognizes that it is in a state where data reading has been completed with the fourth control signal assumes a second value.

32. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the first, second, third, and fourth control signals are received through different ports of the microcomputer.